

Message Text

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UNCLAS STATE 198340 TOSEC 090007

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (LORENZ, PETER), GW, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT: MR. PETER LORENZ,
PRESIDENT OF THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(S/S NO. 7815539)

1. MR. PETER LORENZ, PRESIDENT OF THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHAIR MAN OF THE BERLIN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION, WILL VISIT WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 11-13 AND HAS REQUESTED A MEEING WITH YOU TO DISCUSS GERMAN AND EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENTS. YOU MET MR. LORENZ DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BERLIN IN JULY AND INDICATED TO HIM THAT YOU WOULD PERHAPS BE ABLE TO MEET WITH HIM ON SEPTEMBER 11 OR 12.

2. LORENZ WILL RECEIVE AN HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM WAGNER COLLEGE IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 14.

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3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU MEET WITH LORENZ ON SEPTEMBER 11 OR 12. APPROVE: DATE: TME:
DISAPPROVE:

3. BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF PETER LORENZ: PRESIDENT OF BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SINCE APRIL 1975. ADDRESSED AS MR. LORENZ. TER LORENZ HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN OF THE BERLIN

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION (CDU) SINCE 1969. AFTER THE 1975 ELECTION THAT MADE THE CDU THE LARGEST PARTY IN THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HE ALSO BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE FOR ALMOST 25 YEARS, AND HE WAS ITS VICE PRESIDENT DURING 1967-1975. LORENZ MADE WORLDWIDE HEADLINES IN EARLY 1975: THEN THE CDU'S MAYORAL CANDIDATE, HE WAS KIDNAPPED BY A BAND OF TERRORISTS, WHO HELD HIM HOSTAGE FOR FIVE DAYS (THEY RELEASED HIM UNHARMED AFTER THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT YIELDED TO THEIR DEMANDS).

4. BORN IN BERLIN, LORENZ JOINED THE CDU IN 1946. HE SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JUNGE UNION, THE CDU'S YOUTH ARM, DURING 1946-49 AND AGAIN IN 1953. LORENZ HELPED FOUND THE FREE UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN AND STUDIED LAW THERE FROM 1948-1952. BEFORE BEING CHOSEN AS THE BERLIN CDU CHAIRMAN, HE SERVED AS A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN DURING 1961-65 AND 1967-69. LORENZ WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN 1954.

5. LORENZ, 55, HAS VISITED THE UNITED STATES SEVERAL TIMES. HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER MARIANNE OEHLER; THE COUPLE HAS TWO SONS, CHRISTIAN AND ANDREAS. LORENZ ENJOYS TRACK, SWIMMING AND LISTENING TO CLASSICAL RECORDS. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH. CHRISTOPHER
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